

Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Tuesday - 20 April 1954

- - - - -

1. [ ] of Security, informed me on 19 April that on 15 April GSA had visited [ ] to make certain inquiries about it. Security ascertained that these inquiries were being made at the behest of Sen. Williams (R., Dela.), who wished to know about the property. I called upon Sen. Williams today, and he stated that his interest arose out of allegations that the property had been purchased for approximately \$25,000 on mortgage foreclosure and then was resold to the Government for approximately \$75,000, a spread which Sen. Williams felt was excessive. Sen. Williams had gone up to the property, seen that it was posted U. S. Government, and checked in the Recorder's Office on the prices, and that it was recorded in the Government's name. He then queried GSA, who informed him that it was Government property, but that they had not purchased it, and that they could not tell him the name of the agency which had purchased it. Sen. Williams remarked that that always means CIA, and that if we were interested in security we should have [ ] He remarked that it was just like the people whom you meet in Washington, where you ask them where they work and they reply "U. S. Government", which to him is an automatic flag to CIA. The Senator was perfectly pleasant, and suggested we get the questions which he desires to have answered from GSA, and I told him we would discuss the matter further with him.

25X1A

25X1A

25X1A

2. Mr. Collins, of the Senate Judiciary Committee staff, informed me that CIA was on a list of prospective witnesses in connection with the Committee's consideration of wiretapping legislation, and he asked whether we would be willing to testify. I informed Mr. Collins that the National Security Act specifically prohibits CIA from all internal security and police functions, and that therefore we engaged in no wiretapping in the United States and felt that it would be inappropriate for us to testify. Mr. Collins therefore has stricken us from the list of witnesses.

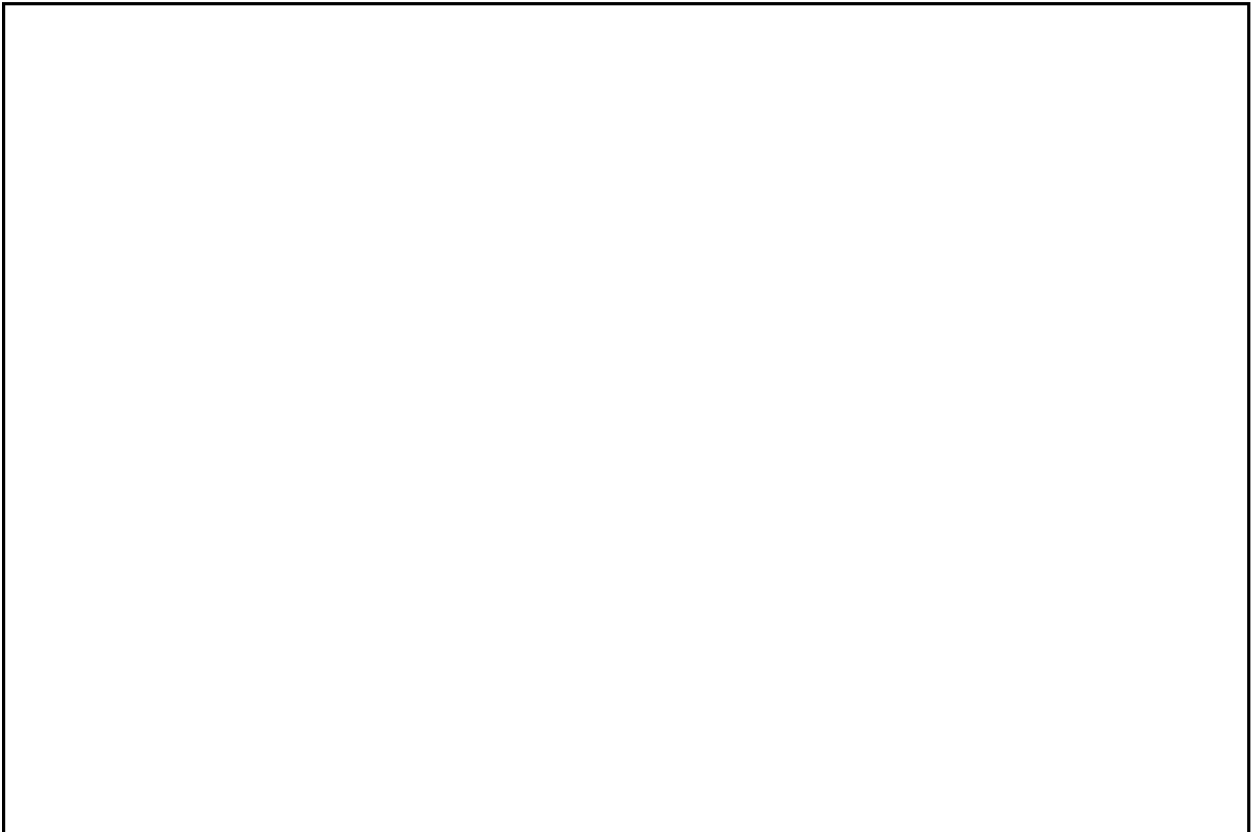
3. Deputy Foreign Operations Administrator Rand has sent an interim reply to Sen. McCarthy's letter to Governor Stassen of 9 April, and Governor Stassen has determined to sit on the letter, unanswered, for the present at least. A copy of the correspondence has been made available to this office.

~~SECRET~~

4. Cong. Van Zandt (R., Pa.) informed me the other day that in his opinion the DCI had done "a magnificent job" in his testimony before the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy on 15 April. The Congressman said that he had been so impressed by the testimony that he "couldn't contain" himself in praise of it. He also stated that his military friends informed him that CIA is improving very much.

5. The DCI had a private meeting with Sen. Potter (R., Mich.) on 17 April.

25X1A



~~SECRET~~